

REMARKS

A requirement was stated in paragraph 2 of the above-identified Office Action that a more descriptive new Title must be submitted. In response, a new Title has been proposed which is believed to be acceptable.

Also, in paragraph 3 of the Office Action, a requirement was made that Fig. 1 had to be revised to include the legend PRIOR ART. Accompanying this Amendment is a drawing Amendment with a new replacement for Sheet 1 of the Drawings indicating Fig. 1 as prior art.

In paragraphs 5-11 of the Office Action all of the previously presented claims were rejected in view of the cited Murakami and Kobayashi patents. In response Applicant has amended each of independent Claims 1, 6, 11, and 12 to stress the patentable distinctions of the claimed invention as compared to the prior art. In particular, each of those claims require a plurality of photoelectric conversion devices to be bonded to a claimed light guide member using adhesive. Moreover, those claims require the plurality of photoelectric conversion devices to each include a two-dimensional array of conversion areas, and an electrical connection between the photoelectric conversion devices and the portion of the light guide member which transmits signals between those devices. (i.e., the "connection member" in Claims 1 and 11, and the "transmission member" in Claims 6 and 12).

Applicant respectfully submits that the above-characterized image input construction is not disclosed by the cited references. Murakami, for example, discloses a photosensor array (Fig. 1) including a light guide portion (5) on which a sensor portion (B) is formed. However, it is submitted that Murakami does not disclose a plurality of

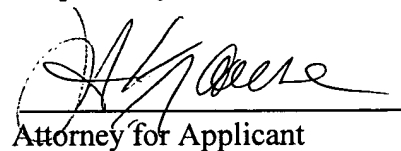
photoelectric conversion devices each of which includes a two-dimensional array of conversion areas. It follows, therefore, that Murakami also fails to disclose such a plurality of devices which are electrically interconnected with a member formed on the light guide member.

Similarly, Kobayashi also fails to disclose a light guide member which includes a connection member electrically connected to a plurality of photoelectric conversion devices.

Because of these deficiencies of the Murakami and Kobayashi patents as rejecting references, Applicant believes that all of the claims as now presented are allowable. Accordingly, the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. J. [unclear]", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant

Registration No. 24,613

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

NY_MAIN 427547v1